

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1964 - SB 2369

February 25, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires a local education agency (LEA) to conduct a remote learning drill at least once, but not more than twice, each school year. Requires each teacher training program to provide instruction, to candidates seeking licensure to teach or licensure as an instructional leader, on effective strategies for virtual instruction. Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to review teacher training programs. Requires all textbooks and instructional materials adopted by an LEA after July 1, 2024, to be electronically accessible and designed to support remote instruction. Requires all textbooks and instructional materials recommended by the State Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission (Commission) to be added to the list for adoption on or after July 1, 2023, to be electronically accessible and designed to support remote instruction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Expenditures –

Exceeds \$66,410,000/FY23-24 and Subsequent Years*

Assumptions:

- LEAs currently have the option to purchase either digitally-based or print-based materials. It is estimated that the majority of LEAs purchase print-based materials because they are less expensive.
- The proposed legislation requires all materials to be digitally accessible.
- It is estimated that digital materials and licenses will cost an additional average of \$75 per student.
- It is assumed that 90 percent of current textbooks and instructional materials are not electronically accessible or designed to support remote instruction; therefore, LEAs will be required to replace 90 percent of the materials currently in use.
- There are approximately 983,852 students in the state across 147 LEAs.
- It is estimated that the increase in local expenditures will exceed \$66,410,010 in FY23-24 and subsequent years ($983,852 \times \$75 \times .90$).
- DOE and the Commission will be able to comply with the proposed requirements within existing resources. Any state fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- Teacher training programs will be able to provide the additional instruction without a significant increase in state expenditures.

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*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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